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WAC 415-112-015 Definitions. (1) All definitions in RCW [41.32.010](#) and WAC [415-02-030](#) apply to terms used in this chapter. Other terms relevant to the administration of chapter [41.32](#) RCW are defined in this chapter.

(2) **"Annual leave"** means leave provided by an employer for the purpose of taking regularly scheduled work time off with pay. Annual leave does not usually include leave for illness, personal business if in addition to and different than vacation leave, or other paid time off from work. However, if an employer authorizes only one type of leave, covering paid leave for vacation, illness, and any other excused absence from work, such leave will be considered annual leave for purposes of RCW [41.50.150](#).

(3) **Contract period** for Plan 1 members as used in RCW [41.32.345](#) means the period from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

(4) **Ineligible position** means a position which does not qualify as an eligible position under RCW [41.32.010](#).

(5) **Pension benefit** means that portion of a retiree's monthly retirement allowance that is funded by the state of Washington and the retiree's former employer or employers.

(6) **Public educational institution** means a school district, the state school for the deaf, the state school for the blind, educational service districts, institutions of higher education, or community colleges.

(7)(a) **Public school** as defined in RCW [41.32.010](#) includes school districts, educational service districts, the state school for the deaf, and the state school for the blind but does not include the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

(b) As applied to other TRS employers, "public school" means an institution, fifty percent or more of whose employees are "qualified to teach," whose primary function is to educate students. See subsection (8) of this section.

(8) **Qualified to teach** as used under RCW [41.32.010](#) means either:

(a) Having the authority to provide instruction at a common school as defined under RCW [28A.150.020](#) pursuant to:

(i) A valid teaching certificate issued by the office of the superintendent of public instruction under WAC [180-75-055](#); or

(ii) A permit to teach issued by lawful authority of this state under RCW [28A.405.010](#); or

(b) Being employed under a contract to teach with an institution of higher education as defined in RCW [28A.150.020](#).

(9) **Reportable compensation** means earnable compensation as that term is defined in RCW [41.32.010](#)(10).

(10)(a) **School year** for Plan 1 members means the fiscal year running from July 1 to June 30.

(b) "School year" for Plan 2 and 3 members means the twelve-month period from September 1 of one year

to August 31 of the following year.

(11) **Service in an administrative or supervisory capacity** as used under RCW [41.32.010](#) and in this chapter:

(a) Means:

(i) Service in a managerial role relating to the administration of a public school; or

(ii) Service involving the exercise of direction over employees of the public school.

(b) Includes, but is not limited to, service as: Principal, assistant principal, superintendent, assistant superintendent, personnel manager and business manager.

(12) **Service in an instructional capacity** means a qualified teacher performing services as a classroom teacher.

(13) **Spousal consent** requires written evidence that the married member's spouse consents to the retirement option selected by the member. The spouse's notarized signature on the retirement application, duly executed and filed with the department, shall constitute "spousal consent."

(14) **System acronyms** used in this chapter are defined as follows:

- "PERS" means the public employees' retirement system.
- "SERS" means the school employees' retirement system.
- "TRS" means the teachers' retirement system.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [41.50.050](#)(5) and chapter [41.32](#) RCW. 02-18-046, § 415-112-015, filed 8/28/02, effective 9/30/02. Statutory Authority: RCW [41.50.050](#). 95-16-053, § 415-112-015, filed 7/25/95, effective 8/25/95. Statutory Authority: RCW [41.50.050](#) and Bowles v. Retirement Systems, 121 Wn.2d 52 (1993). 94-11-009, § 415-112-015, filed 5/5/94, effective 6/5/94. Statutory Authority: RCW [41.32.345](#) and [41.50.050](#). 93-20-021, § 415-112-015, filed 9/24/93, effective 10/25/93.]